



Equity, Growth and Planning in America's Metro Regions

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Outline

- Background: links between social equity, economic growth and regions

- Creating Just Growth: insights from metropolitan patterns

- Planning for Equity and Fighting for Justice: tensions and tightropes



Traditional economic trade-offs?

■ Inequity and growth

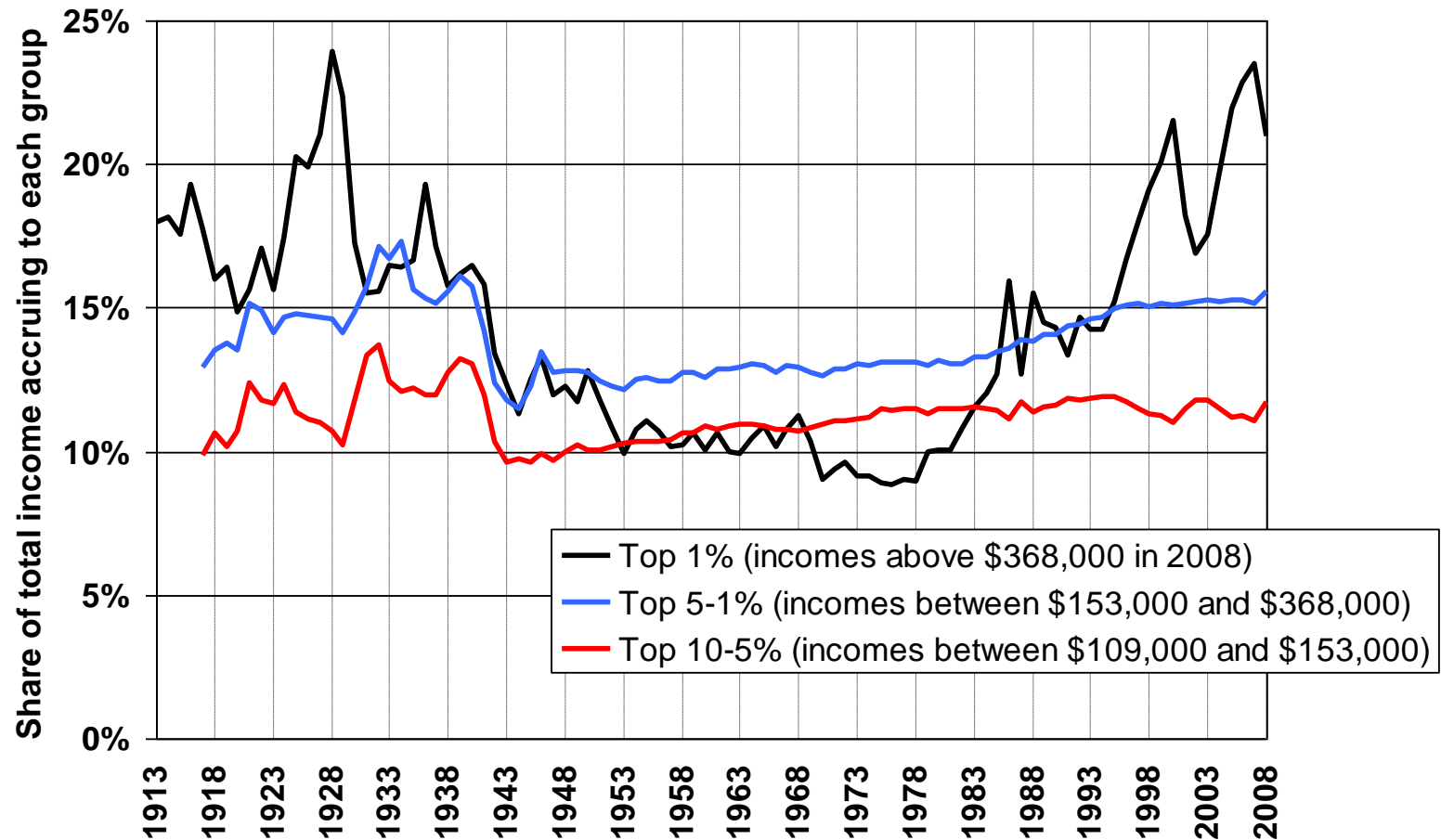
- ☐ Incentive and motivation
- ☐ Need for large-scale investment (Kaldor 1977)
- ☐ Shift from low to high productivity (Kuznets (1955))
- ☐ Skill-biased technological change

■ Equity and growth

- ☐ Keynesian economics
- ☐ Literature in global south
- ☐ Other links?



Inequality and current crisis?



Source: Emmanuel Saez & Thomas Piketty, "Income Inequality in the United States, 1913-1998" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(1), 2003, 1-39. Data series updated to 2008 available at: <http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~saez/>

Fund for our Economic Future

Table 1. Indicators' Impact on Regional Economic Growth

Per Capita Income	Employment	GMP	Productivity
Skilled Workforce and R&D			Skilled Workforce and R&D
Technology Commercialization		Technology Commercialization	Technology Commercialization
Racial Inclusion and Income Equality	Racial Inclusion and Income Equality	Racial Inclusion and Income Equality	Racial Inclusion and Income Equality
	Urban Assimilation	Urban Assimilation	Urban Assimilation
	Legacy of Place*	Legacy of Place*	Legacy of Place*
	Business Dynamics	Business Dynamics	
	Individual Entrepreneurship	Individual Entrepreneurship	
Locational Amenities			
	Urban/Metro Structure	Urban/Metro Structure	

* Denotes that the indicator is negatively related to the measure of economic growth.

136 Metro areas, 4 growth measures, 9 broad indicators with 38 different variables

Source: Fund for our Economic Future, North East Ohio <http://www.futurefundneo.org/page10474.cfm>



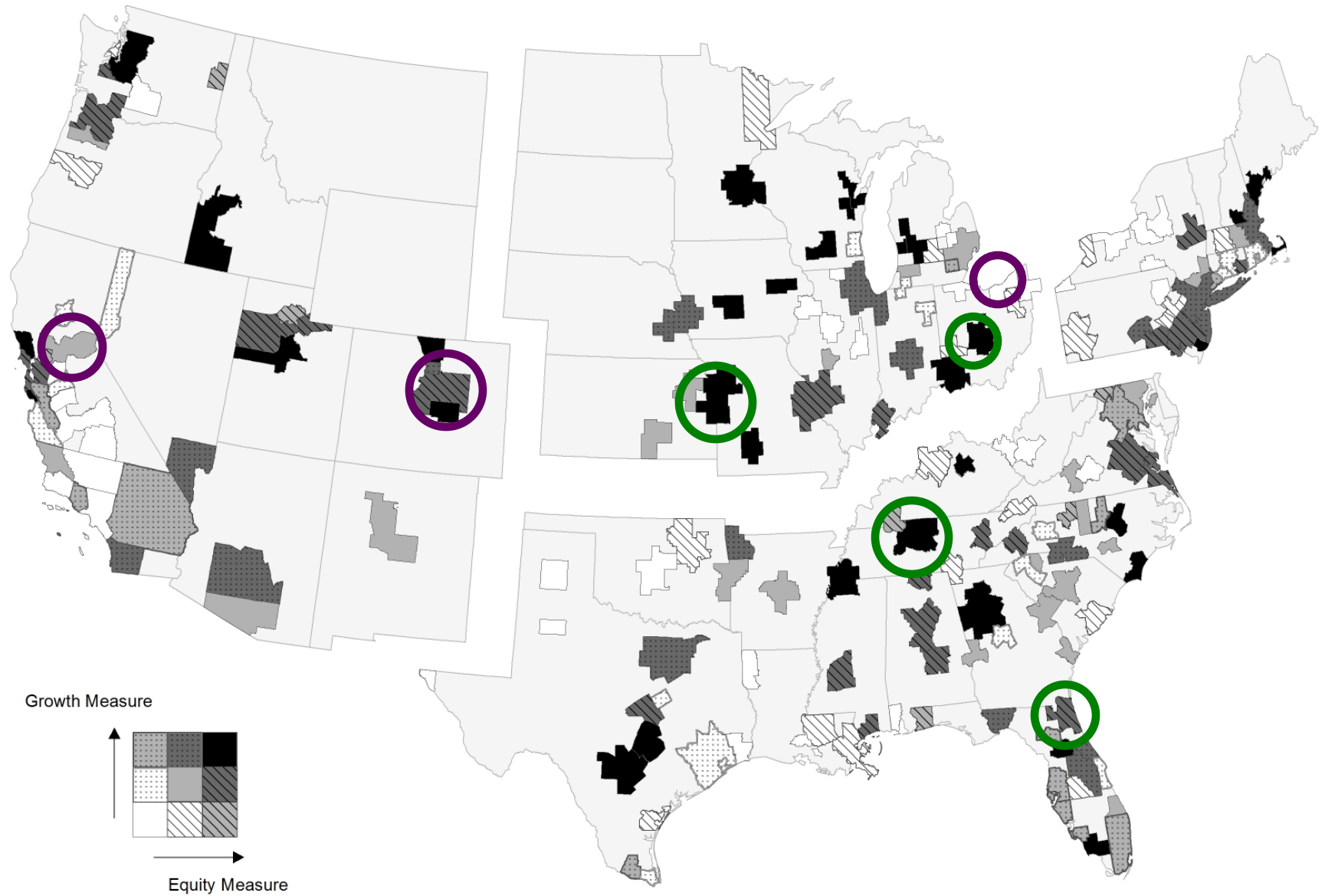
Just Growth key questions

- *Why* is equity linked with growth?
- *How* are 'just growth' regions able to link growth with equity?
- Steps in the analysis
 - *Identify just growth regions*
 - *Quantitative analysis of factors predicting just growth*
 - *In-depth case studies*

Index of growth and equity 1980-2000

<i>total</i>		64	64	64	192
Terciles of Growth index ↑	best	13	18	33	64
	middle	17	24	23	64
	worst	34	22	8	64
		worst	middle	best	<i>total</i>
		→			
		Terciles of Equity index			

Index of growth and equity 1980-2000

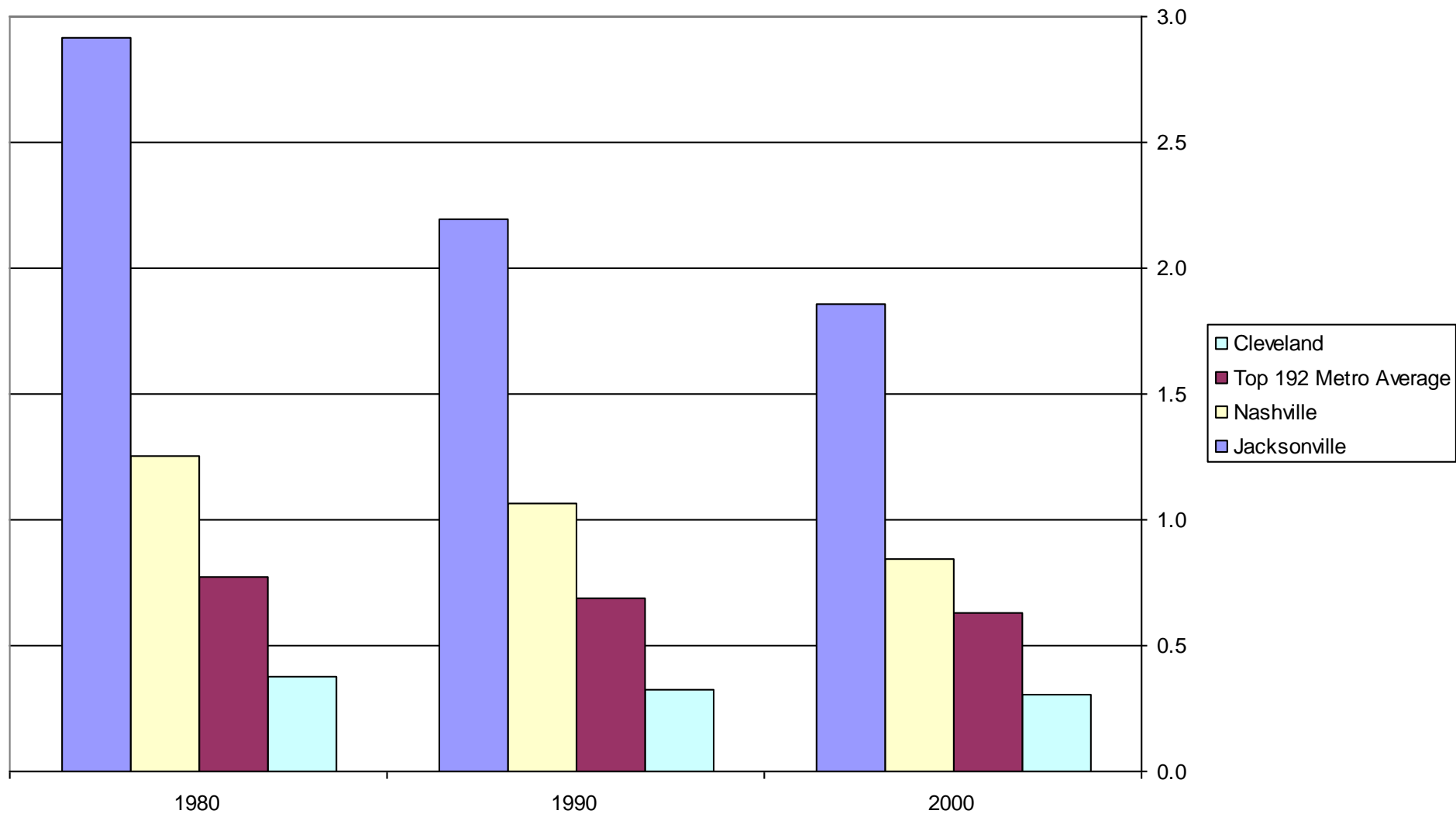


Just Growth Factors...1



- Diversified economy
 - State capital
 - Public sector employment
 - Construction
 - Manufacturing negatively correlated
- Education, especially small portions of poorly educated population
- Minority Middle Class
- Regional government/governance
 - Jacksonville, Nashville City/County Mergers
 - Kansas City MARC

Ratio of Principal City Employment to Suburban Employment 1980, 1990, 2000





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Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64105

MARC seeks federal funding to advance sustainable communities planning in Greater Kansas City

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Community Development

Emergency Services

Environmental Services

Government Innovations Forum

Government Training Institute

Green Impact Zone

Health Care Initiative

International Affairs

Metropolitan Council on Early Learning

Mid-America Head Start

Public Safety

Research Services

Transportation Services

representing the Kansas City Regional TIGER grant to sign agreements and kick off \$50 million in transportation infrastructure projects funded by the grant. MARC coordinated the regional application for competitive TIGER grant funds available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. [More about TIGER»](#)

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Regional TIGER Grant



FTA Regional Administrator Mokhtee Ahmad signs agreements for investing \$50 million in regional TIGER infrastructure improvements.

Skycast for 10/06/2010

[SkyCast](#)



Upcoming Events

[Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events](#)

[2010 Recycling Challenge](#)
4/22-11/15

[International Walk to School Day](#)
10/6/10

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New on Our Web Site

[Creating Sustainable Places Grant Application](#)

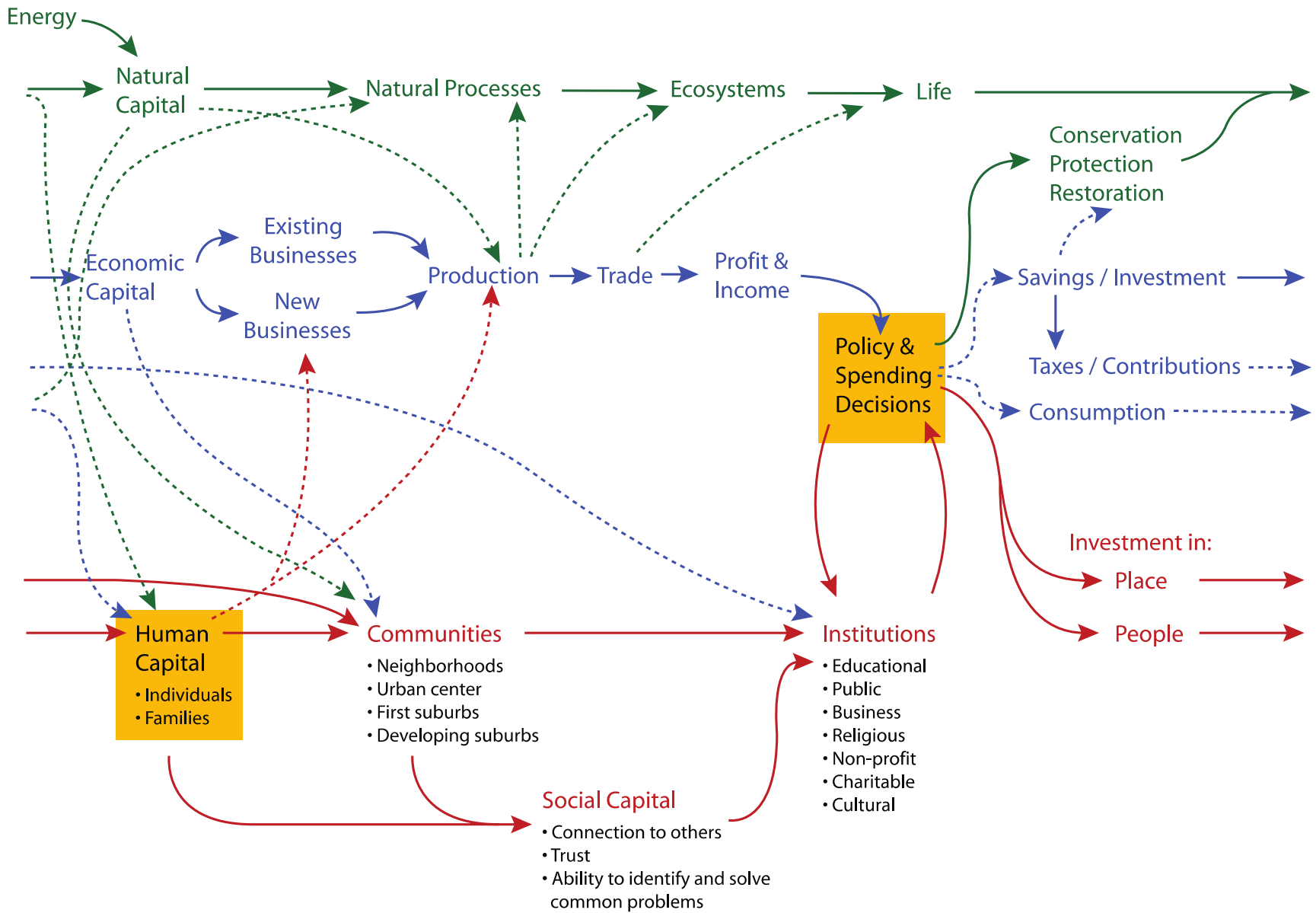
[Missouri Transportation Enhancements 2010-2011 Call for Projects](#)

[TIGER Federal Stimulus Award](#)

[Transportation Outlook 2040](#)

[2009 Public Officials Directory](#)

[2010 Vehicle Bid](#)



■ = The Social System

■ = The Economic System

■ = The Natural System



Building diverse epistemic communities

- Like-minded networks of professionals whose authoritative claim to consensual knowledge provides them with unique source of power in decision-making processes. Processes of interaction (interpretation, knowledge generation, action) often institutionalized when there's a need for repeated interactions over extended periods of time
- In short: What you know and who you know it with
- Exemplary diverse examples
 - Jurisdictional ties
 - Leadership Nashville
 - Jacksonville Community Council Inc.



- Founded in 1976, mostly volunteer, 1 staff
- Annual cohort chosen from applicants and nominations to represent full diversity of the region
 - \$200 to participate, and scholarships available
- Monthly day-long discussions focused on issues in Nashville
 - Government & Media
 - Education
 - Business & Labor
 - Diversity
 - Quality of Life
 - Criminal Justice
 - Arts & entertainment
- More than 200 alumni involved in hosting, planning, sponsoring, participating in events
- No positions! Safe, sustained, deliberative dialogue



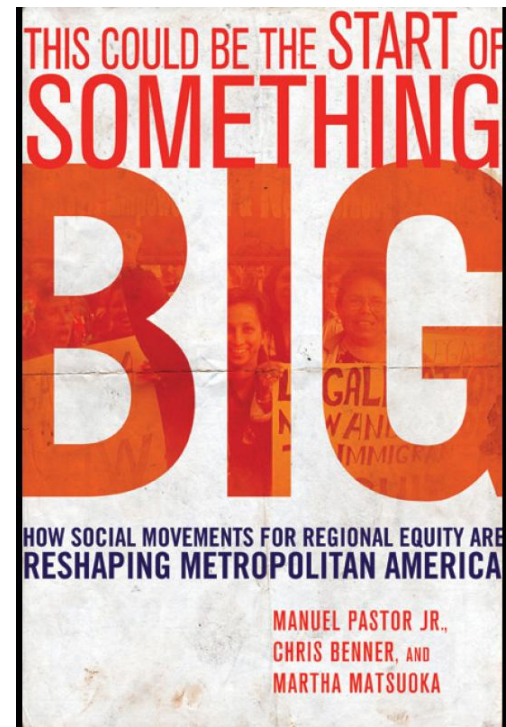
Citizens Building a Better Community
JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL INC.

- Founded in 1975
- Multi-faceted community/participatory “think-tank”
 - One of the earliest annual indicator projects
- Annual studies on particular topics
 - Volunteer citizen task force, facilitated by staff
 - Broad consultative process
 - Consensus based recommendations for action
- Broadly shared priorities and sense of common destiny



Regional equity variants

- Community development regionalism
 - Projects
- Policy entrepreneur regionalism
 - Policy
- Social movement regionalism
 - Politics and power





Planning and movements

- Strong history of advocacy and equity planning, but...
 - Tension around professionalism
- Levels of participation
 - Power central
- Key distinction:
 - Designing participation processes vs. building community capacity



Regional Planning and Equity

- Participation in regional planning more likely to be inauthentic than local processes
 - Jurisdictional weakness
 - Strong business leadership and weaker history of equity advocacy
 - Structural confusion—what can we get done at a regional scale?
 - Community capacity limited

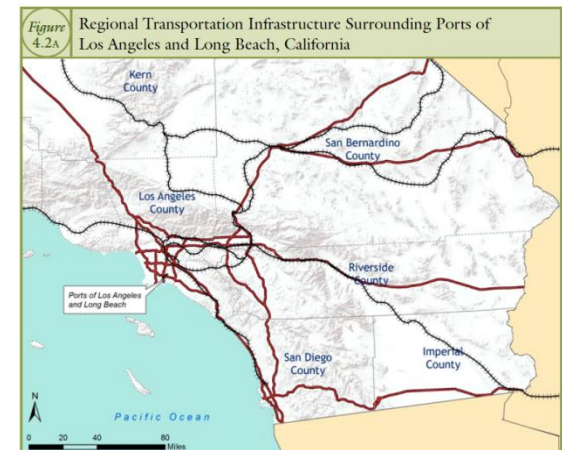
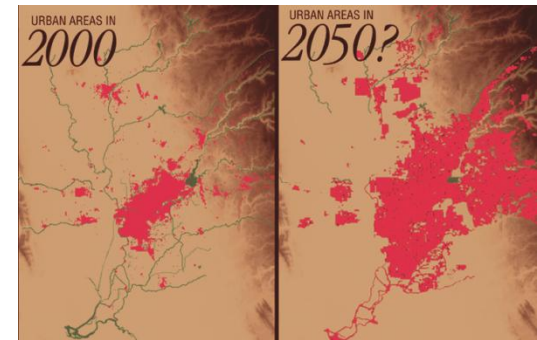
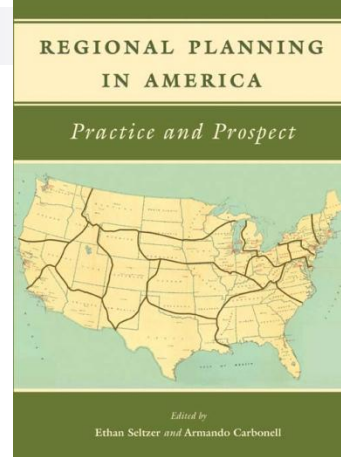
Planning for Equity, Fighting for Justice

■ Sacramento:

- Participatory planning around Blueprint
- Equity constituents playing catch-up

■ Los Angeles

- Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports
- Helped enable regional and port planners overcome growth objectives



Some lessons for planners...



- Limits of planning: Solutions may lie in social movement organizing



- Fuzzy boundaries and processes: social movement groups adds to uncertainty



- Principled conflict: new ways of embracing 'collaboration' and participation